

Introduction

Wildland fires are a part of the natural ecological cycle of wildland ecosystems. However, as humans encroach on these areas, the risk of catastrophic disaster increases. These fires pose a threat to human life and property. The National Fire Plan calls for reducing this risk through a variety of measures including the creation of local wildland urban interface fire mitigation plans.

Bannock County has an increasing risk and extensive history with Wildland Urban Interface fire. In 2003 we have experienced multiple large interface fires with the loss of property and homes.

The following plan is the culmination of work conducted by the Bannock County Emergency Services Office and the Bannock County LEPC. It includes information obtained in a survey of all local fire districts and public input provided by public meetings conducted by Dynamac Corporation, local Departments and a citizen survey.

This plan will be forwarded to The State Of Idaho to become part of the Idaho Statewide Implementation Strategy for the National Fire Plan.

The primary goals of the National Fire plan are:

- **Improve prevention and suppression**
- **Reduce hazardous fuels**
- **Restore fire adapted ecosystems**
- **Promote community assistance**

The Bannock County Plan will include these required elements:

- **Documentation of the planning process**
- **A risk assessment to identify vulnerabilities to wildfire**
- **A prioritized mitigation strategy**
- **A process for maintenance of the plan**
- **Documentation that the plan has been formally adopted**

This plan is a comprehensive look at the wildland interface issues in Bannock County and will offer goals to improve the risks identified.